

Poetry Review Sheet

Study the information below. This is all review, but will be necessary to know to be able to complete this week's assignment. You will not be allowed to look back at this sheet or your other Poetic Devices Sheet when it is time to complete your poetry assignment for the week. The definitions given below are simplified to make them easy to memorize.

In that assignment, you will be asked to give definitions and examples of the following poetic devices:

alliteration: the repetition of consonant sounds, particularly at the beginning of words

Example: "... like a wanderer white"

onomatopoeia: the use of words to imitate the sounds they describe

Example: "crack" or "whir"

personification – the attribution of human qualities or characteristics to an animal, object or idea

Example: "... the Sun smiled down on the sleepy village ..."

rhyme scheme – any pattern of rhymes in poetry. Each new sound is assigned the next letter in the alphabet.

Example: A-B-B-A; C-D-D-C; E-F-F-E; etc.

enjambment – the running on of a thought from one line to another without final punctuation

*Example: "For so work the honey bees,
Creatures that by a rule in nature teach
The act of order to a peopled kingdom."*

synonym – a word that has the same (or nearly the same) meaning as another word

*Example: happy – content, joyful, mirthful, upbeat
intelligent – smart, bright, brilliant, sharp*

homophone – two or more words that have the same pronunciation but different spelling

Example: to, two, too

homograph – two or more words spelled the same way, but not necessarily pronounced the same way, that have different meanings

Example: lead (to take charge) or lead (the material used in pencils)

homonym – two or more words that are spelled *and* pronounced the same way, but have different meanings

Example: bark (of a tree) or bark (of a dog)